

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are currently pending in the subject application and are presently under consideration. Claim 1 has been amended as shown on pages 2-4 of the Reply. Favorable reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the comments and amendments herein.

I. Rejection of Claims 1-20 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Aravamudan *et al.* (US 6,301,609). This rejection should be withdrawn for at least the following reasons. Aravamudan *et al.* fails to disclose or suggest all features set forth in the subject claims.

A single prior art reference anticipates a patent claim only if it ***expressly or inherently describes each and every limitation set forth in the patent claim.*** *Trintec Industries, Inc. v. Top-U.S.A. Corp.*, 295 F.3d 1292, 63 USPQ2d 1597 (Fed. Cir. 2002); *See Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). The ***identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim.*** *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989) (emphasis added).

Applicant's claimed subject matter relates to a system and method to minimize disruptiveness of notifications from various communications modalities *via* bounded deferral policies associated with a notification platform architecture. In particular, independent claim 1, as amended, recites: ***the bounding system establishes a group of notifications associated with disparate likely available states and forwards the group of notifications associated with the disparate likely available states to the entity based on an occurrence of a highest likely state affiliated with at least one notification included in the group of notifications, content of the at least one notification included in the group of notifications is presented to the entity in its entirety, content of notifications associated with lesser likely states included in the group of notifications is displayed for the entity as a summary.*** Aravamudan *et al.* does not teach or suggest these aspects of the claimed subject matter.

Aravamudan *et al.* relates to use of instant messaging in conjunction with access to data and communication network channels and modes. However, Aravamudan *et al.* is silent with

respect to a bounding system that creates a group of notifications associated with many different “likely available states” and forwards the group to the entity on the occurrence of the highest likely state associated with a notification included in the group. On the occurrence of the highest likely state, the entirety of the content of the notification with the highest likely state is presented to the entity, whereas content of notifications associated with lesser likely states are displayed for the entity as a summary of the content. Nowhere does the cited document disclose or suggest these features.

In view of at least the foregoing comments, it is readily apparent that the cited document does not teach or suggest deferral of notifications as recited in the subject claim. Accordingly, the rejection of independent claim 1 (and associated dependent claims) should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance in view of the above comments and amendments. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited. In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063 [MSFTP223WOUSC].

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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